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C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 001078

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/ERA STEVE DYOKAS AND EUR/CE JAMIE LAMORE

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TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [EUN](#) [RU](#) [GG](#) [AF](#) [HU](#)  
SUBJECT: HUNGARIAN VIEWS ON NOVEMBER 10-11 FOREIGN  
MINISTERS MEETING AGENDA

REF: A. SECSTATE 115017  
[1](#)B. BUDAPEST 1025

Classified By: P/E counselor Eric Gaudiosi, reasons 1.4 (b and d)

[1](#)1. (U) MFA EU External Relations and Crisis Situations  
Section Head Andras Dekany provided the following comments to  
PolOff on November 7 for the GAERC meeting scheduled for  
November 10-11.

[1](#)2. (C) Russia: The main question is: has Russia  
miscalculated its strategy on Georgia? There are signs that  
they have lost more strategically than they have gained and,  
therefore, may be amenable to some concessions. That said,  
Dekany noted that "we can only discuss the potential  
concessions if we have a united consensus with the EU,  
ruefully commenting, "our dream." Continuing, he noted that  
the EU must strive not to interpret the EU/Russia  
relationship only in the security policy context, but also  
must consider the EU's Economic first pillar and Justice and  
Home Affairs third pillar as well. Dekany emphasized that  
the EU must separate the EU-Russia Partnership Agreement from  
long-term strategic thinking. Hungary, he noted, is  
interested in engaging Moscow in order to move them towards  
compliance with international rules and regulations,  
commenting "we need to take Russia at its word to strive and  
settle frozen conflicts in the international context, as it  
would be beneficial for us."

[1](#)3. (C) Russia continued: Related to the Russian proposal for  
a new European security strategy, Dekany said it is important  
to preserve the integrity of the EU and NATO. He stated his  
personal belief that referring this proposal to the OSCE for  
consultations and discussions will provide a "good stop" to  
the effort. Concerning Georgia, Dekany said it is important  
that talks have started, as they provide an opportunity to  
de-escalate the situation to our benefit. He views that  
South Ossetia and Abkhazia have different goals, with South  
Ossetia inclined towards joining Russia, while Abkhazia  
attempts to preserve its independence much farther into the  
future. He stated that the EU Monitoring Mission should  
enlarge its field of activity with the goal of a long-term  
presence in the conflict area. Dekany also noted that EU  
planning calls for launching an Independent Mission of  
Inquiry. Commenting on the upcoming EU/Russia summit on  
November 14, Dekany said the French Presidency plans to focus  
primarily on the financial crisis issue.

[1](#)4. (C) Afghanistan: The EU should consider ways to "provide  
added value," especially as the security situation  
deteriorates in the north. Drug trafficking issues and the  
upcoming elections will require a greater international  
effort. Hungary sees the appointment of the new Interior  
Minister as a positive step. Dekany stated that the EU needs  
to examine carefully what they can provide the Afghan  
National Police (ANP), in particular, potential use of

current uncommitted funds to supply additional equipment to the ANP.

¶5. (C) Western Balkans: Dekany noted that there will be a separate Foreign Ministers/Defense Ministers meeting on margins of the GAERC. According to Dekany, the primary focus will be on the western Balkans. He reiterated the points outlined in ref B, commenting that EUFOR should not be withdrawn "too early" and only after close coordination between the current Office of the High Representative and the planned EU Senior Representative.  
Foley